

Letter from Rinad and Meghan

Dear PISCE@LDI community,

We have been enjoying another semester of incredible talks from experts in the field of implementation science. We are so grateful to all of these clinicians and scientists who have shared their expertise with our community. One recent talk that we want to highlight is Dr. Anne Sales' talk, which was co-sponsored by Penn LDI, on the intersection of implementation science and economics. The talk had almost 90 attendees! If you missed it, you can view the recording [here](#).

The semester isn't over yet! We want to spotlight some upcoming PISCE@LDI activities that we hope you'll attend:

- **April 22nd from 12-1PM:** The Penn Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), Implementation Science in Philadelphia to end the HIV Epidemic Regionally Scientific Working Group (ISPHERE SWG), and PISCE@LDI will co-host a talk by [Dr. Sarit Golub](#). Her talk will focus on implementation science and ending the HIV epidemic. Her work was mentioned in the NYT daily summary on 2/12!
 - [Click here](#) to add this event to Google calendar
 - [Click here](#) to add this event to Outlook calendar
 - **To join the meeting on a computer or mobile phone: *CJ will add meeting info here once in Emma***
- **April 26th from 9-10AM:** Penn Center for Mental Health (CMH) and PISCE@LDI are co-sponsoring a talk by [Dr. Geoff Curran](#). His talk will focus on hybrid designs and methods related issues.
 - Please [RSVP here](#) if you are planning to attend Dr. Curran's talk
 - [Click here](#) to add this event to Google calendar
 - [Click here](#) to add this event to Outlook calendar
 - **To join the meeting on a computer or mobile phone: *CJ will add meeting info here once in Emma***
- **May 11th from 4-5 PM:** ISPHERE SWG is hosting a Works in Progress (WIP) meeting. National Clinician Scholars Program Fellow Daniel Teixeira da Silva, MD, will present on his upcoming K grant and share the specific aims with the SWG. We look forward to it and hope to see you there!
 - If you are planning to attend this WIP meeting, please [RSVP here](#)
 - **Please note that this WIP is intended only for our Philadelphia-based colleagues**
 - To join the meeting on a computer or mobile phone:
<https://pennteam.zoom.us/j/5735073602>
 - Meeting ID: 573 507 3602
 - Password: equity (all lowercase)
 - [Click here](#) to add this event to Google calendar

- [Click here](#) to add this event to Outlook calendar
- **June 7-11th**: MsHP PISCE@LDI [Penn Implementation Science Institute](#) (ISI).

Lastly, we wanted to make you aware that *The Journal of General Internal Medicine* recently announced its Quality Improvement Science and Implementation Science Initiative, which “aims to support publication of articles that use or further develop these sciences in designing, evaluating, and reporting on improvement interventions.” To this end, **JGIM is now accepting implementation science and quality improvement papers that focus on changes in healthcare delivery**. Read more [here](#).

Be well,
Rinad and Meghan

Spotlight on PISCE@LDI Member



Courtney Benjamin Wolk, PhD

Dr. Wolk is an Assistant Professor at the Penn Center for Mental Health within Penn’s Perelman School of Medicine. We are very excited to spotlight Dr. Wolk as the PISCE@LDI member of the month for April. In the following conversation with Dr. Wolk, we learn more about her background and interests within implementation science.

PISCE@LDI: Please tell us a little bit about yourself.

Dr. Wolk: I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry; I am an implementation scientist and a clinical psychologist. I have a particular interest in the implementation and evaluation of evidence-based mental health screening, prevention, and intervention practices in non-specialty mental health settings, such as schools and primary care. I am also very interested in how to improve the integration of mental health services in settings where mental health care is not the primary mission. My research focuses on identifying the common overarching barriers and facilitators to implementing mental health interventions in non-specialty mental health settings and in the design and evaluation of actionable strategies for fostering integration. Understanding the unique contextual considerations and implementation challenges found in these settings can help us identify the most promising implementation strategies to support the use of evidence-based practices in these contexts.

PISCE@LDI: How did you become interested in implementation science?

Dr. Wolk: I became interested in implementation science as a pre-doctoral intern. I was providing evidence-based psychotherapy to youth as part of my clinical training and was frustrated to often hear from families how difficult it had been for them to find effective treatment in the community. This led me to pursue postdoctoral training in implementation science- I wanted to better understand the landscape of evidence-based therapy in community settings and develop strategies to increase uptake of the most effective mental health interventions.

PISCE@LDI: What excites you most about pursuing a research agenda in implementation science?

Dr. Wolk: The need for mental health treatment far surpasses the availability of specialty mental health care. Implementation science is a relatively new field with a lot of energy and promising methods for reducing the research to practice gap. Using implementation science methods, I believe we can develop and evaluate novel strategies to support implementation and integration of the most effective mental health treatments in the myriad of settings that serve individuals with unmet mental health needs.

Newly Funded Grants with an Implementation Science Focus

Fidelity and adaptation of breast cancer resource-stratified treatment guidelines in Botswana



Dr. Yehoda Martei received a K award to study the implementation of evidence-based treatment for HIV-positive and -negative breast cancer patients in Botswana. Currently, real-world data are lacking on the treatment fidelity and the implementation of guideline-based care in Sub-Saharan Africa and in HIV-prevalent regions, where HIV-infected (HIV+) breast cancer patients have a significantly increased risk of all-cause mortality. This study aims to investigate whether inferior outcomes are related to the quality or extent of guideline implementation or other unrelated factors. The long-term goal is to improve survival outcomes in HIV+ and HIV- breast cancer patients in Sub-Saharan Africa by designing targeted interventions to increase high-quality therapy delivery. Through this K award, Dr.

Martei aims to: 1) compare treatment fidelity between HIV+ and HIV- breast cancer patients receiving curative intent therapy and identify HIV modifiers of fidelity; 2) using mixed methods design and a deviance sample of patients with high and low fidelity to identify socioeconomic and cultural modifiers of fidelity; and 3) using the collaborative intervention planning framework to identify targets for guideline adaptation and develop a menu of implementation strategies and intervention trials to promote treatment fidelity.

Funding Opportunities

Please see below for three recently published NIAID funding opportunities: Epidemiology, Treatment Approaches, and Prevention Strategies To End the HIV Epidemic

- [RFA-AI-21-023](#), Respond—Epidemiology To End the HIV Epidemic (RESPOND: EEE) (R01, Clinical Trial Optional)
- [RFA-AI-21-024](#), Multidisciplinary Treatment Approaches To End the HIV Epidemic (R01, Clinical Trial Optional)
- [RFA-AI-21-025](#), Prevention Strategies To End the HIV Epidemic (R01, Clinical Trial Optional)

For more, check NIAID [Opportunities](#) and [Announcements](#).

Training Opportunities and Conferences

HPR 612-920: Advanced Topics in Implementation Science in Health

Will be offered virtually – open to non-Penn students but includes tuition costs

Thursdays 1-4 pm, July 1 – August 6

Taught by Dr. Rinad Beidas and Dr. Meghan Lane-Fall

This seminar course offers an opportunity for students to advance their understanding of the thorniest methodological challenges in implementation science. Broadly, topics include study design, study execution, and tensions in the field. The intention will be for attendees to directly apply their learnings to their ongoing or proposed implementation research. This half credit course is intended for those who have already been exposed to the foundational content of implementation science. This can be achieved via HPR 611, the Penn Implementation Science Institute, or other training opportunities such as the NIH TIDIRH/TIDIRC or mentored K awards. Instructor permission is required for enrollment.

To register or request more information, contact instructors or MSHP staff at mshp@pennmedicine.upenn.edu.

Colorado Pragmatic Research in Health Conference (COPRH Con)

Implementation & Conduct of Pragmatic Research: Ensuring Rigor & Relevance in Practice Virtual International Conference

May 24-26, 2021, 10 am- 3 pm (MT)

Conducting rigorous yet relevant research in real-world health care settings requires pragmatic methods for implementation and analysis.

COPRH Con will help you:

- Learn from experts in implementation science, stakeholder engagement, health equity, data science, informatics, biostatistics, and bioethics
- Apply pragmatic methods to your own research
- Gain practical skills for working with health care systems, existing practice personnel, and novel data sources
- Explore the frontiers of analysis of pragmatic and hybrid trial designs

For more information and to register: COPRHcon.com

Global Implementation Conference

The Global Implementation Society is hosting its biennial Global Implementation Conference (GIC) virtually on **May 3 to May 6, 2021**. This year's conference theme is "Addressing Equity in Implementation: Building Capacity in Research, Practice, and Policy Across the Globe." GIC will engage the expanding global implementation community in dialogue on cutting edge research and real-world examples of impact in diverse contexts.

For more information visit, please visit gic.globalimplementation.org.

The Global Implementation Society (GIS) is an international organization whose purpose is to promote and establish coherent and collaborative approaches to implementation practice.

Job Opportunities

Mid-Career or Senior Faculty Position in State Health Policy (open rank tenured or tenure track)

Rutgers [Center for State Health Policy](#) (CSHP/Center) is recruiting one or more mid-career or senior faculty with demonstrated ability to develop and lead a program of research that addresses critical and timely health systems, population health, and policy challenges facing New Jersey, other states, and the nation. Early stage candidates who have already demonstrated exceptional promise to achieve an independent, extramurally supported research career will be considered. This position offers a unique and exciting opportunity for candidates interested in achieving academic excellence by conducting high-impact, applied health services and state health policy research.

Areas of Research Inquiry

We are interested in candidates who can successfully advance a research agenda consistent with the Center's mission. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Informing the development and implementation of payment and delivery system reforms intended to lead to more effective and efficient care for medically and socially complex patients, particularly those covered by Medicaid;
- Identifying causes and potential solutions to long-standing and emerging health disparities and inequities;
- Evaluating public policies intended to improve care for aging populations and individuals with disabilities;
- Informing strategies to improve population health and well-being by addressing social determinants of health;
- Investigating policies to expand access to affordable health insurance coverage; and
- Examining impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and possible future emergencies on the health, economic, and overall wellbeing of at-risk populations and identifying strategies to mitigate potential adverse effects.

Candidate Qualifications

Education:

- A doctoral degree *at the time of application* in a discipline such as economics, political science, psychology, or sociology; an applied research field such as law, public policy, health services research and epidemiology; a clinical degree plus advanced research training and experience.

Experience conducting and translating research:

- Demonstrated success in developing extramurally-funded research and ability to build a robustly funded program of research that advances knowledge in health systems and policy;
- Demonstrated track record in translating and disseminating research findings to diverse policy audiences;
- Expertise in inferential and predictive modeling, working with large administrative data sources, analyzing complex surveys, and applying mixed quantitative-qualitative methods; and
- Strong leadership and mentorship skills and ability to take on teaching and student mentorship responsibilities within the tenure department.

About the Center

The mission of CSHP is to inform, support and stimulate sound and creative state health policy in New Jersey and around the nation. The [Center](#) is a unit of the [Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research](#) (IFH) within [Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences](#) (RBHS). After an initial three-year period with access to a generous start up package, the successful candidate(s) will be expected to cover a substantial share of their time with extramural funding awards.

Salary and academic rank will be commensurate with relevant research experience, publication record, and other achievements. The successful candidate(s) will work in-residence within CSHP/IFH, and they will be jointly appointed to tenure-conferring unit within Rutgers school/department that is consistent the applicant's academic discipline and interests.

Apply for the position [here](#).

Implementation Scientist, Tenure or Clinician-Educator Track, Assistant Professor, General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the Department of Pediatrics at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania seek candidates for an Assistant Professor position in either the non-tenure clinician educator track or the tenure track. Expertise is required in the specific area of implementation science with a strong record of academic achievement to build a leading program in pediatric implementation science within CHOP's Center for Pediatric Clinical Effectiveness (CPCE). The opportunities for implementation science within CHOP and building upon the CPCE portfolio are vast. Within CPCE, investigators play leading roles in many regional, national and international networks focused on improving child health care and health. Building upon health system and community partnerships and using a variety of successful informatics approaches, the Center has a variety of resources that have proven effective in translating research into practice. These tools and connections provide a foundation for advancing implementation science methods and the well-being of children. Applicants must have an a PhD, DrPH, or M.D or equivalent degree.

Teaching responsibilities may include teaching and/or mentoring of medical students at the Perelman School of Medicine as well as residents or fellows at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Teaching may also include education and mentoring of faculty in implementation science.

Clinical responsibilities may include inpatient and/or outpatient clinical services in the candidate's sub-specialty, including supervision of residents and fellows (if applicable).

Research or scholarship responsibilities may include leading a collaborative program in pediatric implementation science with CPCE, its accomplished faculty, and the broader research community at the University of Pennsylvania.

The successful candidate is expected to have the interest and ability to work both independently and as part of a broader research Center and community. The expectation is that the faculty person would maintain a strong affiliation with the Penn Implementation Science Center at the Leonard Davis Institute (PISCE@LDI) at the University of Pennsylvania.

For more information and to apply, visit: apply.interfolio.com/84235

Implementation Scientist, Tenure or Clinician-Educator Track, Associate or Full Professor, General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the Department of Pediatrics at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania seek candidates for an Associate or Full Professor position in either the non-tenure clinician educator track or the tenure track. Expertise is required in the specific area of implementation science with a strong record of academic achievement to build a leading program in pediatric implementation science within CHOP's Center for Pediatric Clinical Effectiveness (CPCE). The opportunities for implementation science within CHOP and building upon the CPCE portfolio are vast. Within CPCE, investigators play leading roles in many regional, national and international networks focused on improving child health care and health. Building upon health system and community partnerships and using a variety of successful informatics approaches, the Center has a variety of resources that have proven effective in translating research into practice. These tools and connections provide a foundation for advancing implementation science methods and the well-being of children. PhD, DrPH, MD or additional degree in epidemiology, health services research, public health or a related field is required.

Teaching responsibilities may include teaching and/or mentoring of medical students at the Perelman School of Medicine as well as residents or fellows at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Teaching may also include education and mentoring of faculty in implementation science.

Clinical responsibilities may include inpatient and/or outpatient clinical services in the candidate's sub-specialty, including supervision of residents and fellows (if applicable).

Research or scholarship responsibilities may include leading a collaborative program in pediatric implementation science with CPCE, its accomplished faculty, and the broader research community at the University of Pennsylvania. Candidates are expected to have a track record of extramural research grant funding and have national or international recognition as experts in their field.

The successful candidate is expected to have the interest and ability to work both independently and as part of a broader research Center and community. The expectation is that the faculty person would maintain a strong affiliation with the Penn Implementation Science Center at the Leonard Davis Institute (PISCE@LDI) at the University of Pennsylvania.

For more information and to apply, visit: apply.interfolio.com/84233

Director of Research for the KSU CARES Programs and (open rank) Professor

Kennesaw State University is now accepting applications for an open-rank tenured or tenure track position as Director of Research for the university's innovative Campus Awareness, Resource & Empowerment Services (CARES) programs. The Director will also hold a faculty appointment, with their home department residing in one or more of the following colleges within the university: the Bagwell College of Education, the Radow College of Humanities and Social Science, or the Wellstar College of Health and Human Services. Rank is determined at the time of hire and will be commensurate with experience. This is a nine-month academic position with summer support negotiable.

The mission of CARES is to provide access to food, temporary housing, and other supportive services to foster students' realization of a healthy, stable, and dignified life academically and professionally. Furthermore, to serve as a model of professional excellence and effectiveness by upholding core values of social justice, equity, economic sustainability, and mutual partnership.

The Director of Research for the CARES programs, which serves both KSU students and the broader metro-Atlanta community, will have a central leadership role in positioning KSU as a hub of collegiate programming specifically targeting vulnerable populations in need of assistance, e.g., financial, food, and/or housing, etc.

To facilitate this role, the successful candidate will have an up to 25% administrative appointment to KSU CARES.

The KSU CARES Director of Research will lead research initiatives aimed at evaluating and disseminating evidence-based practices related to CARES. The candidate will also be expected to secure external funding for efficacy and effectiveness evaluation of the CARES programs, followed by the pursuit of external funding to conduct dissemination and implementation research to be able to expand the programs more broadly. This research is in support of KSU's goal to be student-focused and research-driven and to be a top tier R2 University producing research with relevance that creates and refines knowledge that is aligned to real-world applications.

The candidate will also maintain their own dynamic research program related to community engagement and/or support of vulnerable populations, and teach and develop university courses in their discipline. The candidate will be a faculty member with strong leadership and entrepreneurial skills who strives for excellence in teaching, professional, and scholarly achievements in their area of expertise. Service to the department, college, and/or institution will be required, while service to the professional community will be strongly encouraged.

Candidates must have an earned terminal degree or its foreign equivalent in either social work, public health, social and behavioral science, education, public or nonprofit administration or policy, or a related field. Candidates must also have a strong research agenda, including evidence or promise of success in obtaining external funding; experience teaching courses in, or related to, their field of expertise. For tenure consideration, the successful candidate must hold tenure and/or possess experience and achievements sufficient to qualify for tenure.

Qualified candidates should show evidence of:

(1) commitment to diversity, equity, and social justice, and (2) teaching experience and research related to the mission of KSU CARES. They should have demonstrated competence in study design (including program evaluation), data analysis, grant writing, and research scholarship.

Preferred candidates should (1) possess an earned doctoral degree or its foreign equivalent, (2) demonstrate a consistent track record of securing and administering external grants and contracts, and (3) show evidence of a commitment to collaboration with faculty, staff, students and community partners.

For a full description of this position, application deadlines, and application procedures, visit https://facultyaffairs.kennesaw.edu/faculty_openings.php.

Director of Research in the A. L. Burruss Institute of Public Service and Research and (open rank) Professor

Kennesaw State University is now accepting applications for a senior leadership position in the A. L. Burruss Institute. This position will also hold faculty rank, which will be determined at the time of hire and commensurate with experience. The position's home department can be in any one of the following three Colleges (the Bagwell College of Education, the Radow College of Humanities and Social Science, or the Wellstar College of Health and Human Services); or it can be a joint appointment spanning Colleges if appropriate.

The mission of the A. L. Burruss Institute, which is housed organizationally within the University's Office of the Vice President for Research, is to "enhance the ability of governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations to make informed decisions for the public good by providing relevant data, technical resources and skill development." The successful candidate will have a 25-50% administrative appointment to the A. L. Burruss Institute to serve as its Director of Research and will report, in that capacity, to the Vice President for Research. This is a nine-month academic position with summer support negotiable.

The Director of Research will provide strategic leadership and management over the Institute's research agenda and service delivery strategy and is charged with increasing the visibility and profile of the Institute. Consequently, the incumbent will have a central leadership role in positioning KSU as a hub of program evaluation both statewide and nationally.

Responsibilities of this position include:

- Setting research priorities for the Institute;
- Collaborating with Institute faculty and staff to grow, conceptualize, and implement a variety of projects in support of the Institute's mission, with a particular emphasis on evaluation research;
- Discovering, conducting and managing interdisciplinary research projects and services;
- Growing current, and diversifying, revenue streams in support of the Institute's mission;
- Bridging different substantive areas across campus in support of KSU's goal to be a top-tier R2 University producing research with relevance that creates and refines knowledge that is aligned to real-world applications;
- Increasing the visibility of the Institute both internally and externally.

In addition, this newly created position will support an increase in campus-wide research productivity with a focus on interdisciplinary collaboration and research.

The successful candidate is also expected to teach courses at both graduate and undergraduate levels, as well as develop new courses, in their area(s) of expertise. Service to the department, college and/or institution will be required, while service to the professional community will be strongly encouraged.

Candidates must have an earned terminal degree or its foreign equivalent in either education, public health, social and behavioral science, public or nonprofit management or policy, or a related field; and experience teaching courses in, or related to, their field of expertise.

For tenure consideration, the successful candidate must hold tenure and/or possess experience and achievements sufficient to qualify for tenure.

Substantial experience in program evaluation, as well as strong academic and research credentials directly related to qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods are essential for this position. Expertise and experience in program evaluation, survey research, and study design is a preferred qualification for this position. While the candidate may focus primarily on one or several approaches to research methodology (e.g., quantitative, qualitative, community-based participatory research, field experiments, survey research/interviewing/focus groups, and large dataset analyses), they are expected to be conversant across a broad range of methods and approaches. We are particularly interested in candidates who have research expertise in the practice of evaluation in diverse contexts such as education, public health, social and behavioral interventions, government policies, healthcare settings, and/or community programming.

Qualified candidates will have demonstrated competence in research, evaluation, grant writing, and scholarship. Candidates should have a track record of securing extramural grants and/or contracts, with relevant experience working on funded projects, and evidence of a commitment to collaboration with faculty and students.

For a full description of this position, application deadlines, and application procedures, visit https://facultyaffairs.kennesaw.edu/faculty_openings.php.

Featured Publications

[Identifying the effective components of a standardized labor induction protocol: secondary analysis of a randomized, controlled trial](#)

Rebecca F Hamm, Rinad Beidas, Sindhu K Srinivas, Lisa D Levine
The Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine, April 2021

[Transporting to treatment: Evaluating the effectiveness of a mobile engagement unit](#)

Stewart, Rebecca E., Lisa Shen, Nayoung Kwon, Josh Vigderman, Susanna Kramer, David Mandell, Molly Candon, Roland Lamb, and Aileen Rothbard. JJournal of Substance Abuse Treatment (2021)

[The Organizational Financial Context of Publicly-Funded Mental Health Clinics: Development and Preliminary Psychometric Evaluation of the Agency Financial Status Scales.](#)

Maxwell CA, Ehrhart MG, Williams NJ, Moore TM, Kendall PC, Beidas RS. Adm Policy Ment Health. 2021 Mar 19. doi: 10.1007/s10488-021-01128-4. Online ahead of print. PMID: 33740163

[Partners in School: An **Implementation** Strategy to Promote Alignment of Evidence-Based Practices Across Home and School for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.](#)

Azad GF, Minton KE, Mandell DS, Landa RJ. *Adm Policy Ment Health*. 2021 Mar;48(2):266-278. doi: 10.1007/s10488-020-01064-9. PMID: 32653973

[Measurement of unnecessary psychiatric readmissions in the context of care transition interventions: a scoping review.](#)

Kim B, Weatherly C, Wolk CB, Proctor EK. *BMJ Open*. 2021 Feb 8;11(2):e045364. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2020-045364.

[A State Financial Incentive Policy to Improve Emergency Department Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder: A Qualitative Study.](#)

Kilaru AS, Lubitz SF, Davis J, Eriksen W, Siegel S, Kelley D, Perrone J, Meisel ZF.

[Facilitators and Barriers to **Implementation** of Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptive Services for Adolescent Girls and Young Women in Gaborone, Botswana.](#)

Henry D, Wood S, Moshashane N, Ramontshonyana K, Amutah C, Maleki P, Howlett C, Brooks MJ, Mussa A, Joel D, Steenhoff AP, Akers AY, Morrioni C. *J Pediatr Adolesc Gynecol*. 2021 Mar 22:S1083-3188(21)00155-8. doi: 10.1016/j.jpag.2021.03.005. Online ahead of print.